

### REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated July 28, 2005. Claims 1 to 21 and 23 to 46 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 6, 11, 12, 26 and 32 to 44 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Turning first to a formal matter, Applicants request the Examiner to provide an indication that he has considered U.S. Application No. 09/531,959, listed on the front page of the Information Disclosure Statement dated February 5, 2001, by initialing and returning the front page of the IDS.

Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 12, 19 to 21 and 23 to 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,686,954 (Yoshinobu) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,758,259 (Lawler). Claims 4, 13 and 16 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yoshinobu in view of Lawler and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,002,394 (Schein). Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yoshinobu in view of Lawler and Schein and in further view of U.S. Patent No 6,642,939 (Vallone). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Turning now to the claims, independent Claim 1 defines a receiving apparatus comprising receiving means for receiving a broadcasting signal in which information signals having program information for each of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, information output means for outputting to a user, program information for each program, and selecting means for selecting by the user, a program corresponding to

first program information from the plurality of programs. The apparatus also comprises input means for inputting by the user, second program information regarding the selected program, integrating means for integrating the first and second program information, and transmitting means for transmitting the integrated program information as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

Independent Claims 33 and 39 are method and computer medium claims that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 33 and 39 and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of inputting by the user, second program information regarding a selected program, integrating first and second program information, and transmitting the integrated program information as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

Yoshinobu is seen to disclose receiving a broadcast signal of television programs along with index data for the programs, and displaying a television program selected by a user on the user's television. Yoshinobu is not seen to disclose or to suggest inputting by the user, second program information regarding a selected program, integrating first and second program information, and transmitting the integrated program information as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

Lawler is characterized by an interactive television (IT) system that automatically identifies certain characteristics of the programs viewed by a user, and

gathers the characteristics into a database. Upon request by the user, or by another user, the IT system generates a preferred programming guide based on these automatically gathered characteristics. Lawler's data gathering and generation of a preferred programming guide are automatic, and "[a]s a result, the method of identifying the preferred programming is transparent to, and requires no explicit selection by, the viewer." (column 2, lines 7 to 9 of Lawler). Therefore, Lawler is not seen to disclose or to suggest inputting by the user, second program information regarding a selected program, integrating first and second program information, and transmitting the integrated program information as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user. Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 33 and 39 are believed to be allowable.

Independent Claim 6 defines a receiving apparatus comprising receiving means for receiving a broadcasting signal in which video signals and program information signals of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, video signal processing means for processing the video signal of a program and outputting the processed video signal to a display device, program information extracting means for extracting program information from the program information signals received by said receiving means, and program table generating means for generating a program table in accordance with the program information extracted by said program information extracting means and outputting data representative of the program table to the display device. The apparatus also comprises selecting means for selecting by a user, a program from programs described in the program table, input means for inputting by the user, recommendation information regarding the selected program, file generating means for generating an output file using

the program information of the selected program together with the recommendation information input by the input means, and transmitting means for transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

Independent Claims 34 and 40 are method and computer medium claims that substantially correspond to Claim 6.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or fairly suggest the features of Claims 6, 34 and 40 and in particular, is not seen to disclose or fairly suggest at least the features of inputting by the user, recommendation information regarding a selected program, generating an output file using program information of the selected program together with the recommendation information, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

Neither Yoshinobu nor Lawler is seen to disclose or to suggest inputting recommendation information by the user. In particular, and as discussed above, while Lawler's system may identify characteristics of programs delivered to a viewer, Lawler is clear that this automated system requires no selection by the viewer. Hence, Lawler's automatic system is not seen to disclose or suggest inputting by the user, recommendation information regarding a selected program, generating an output file using program information of the selected program together with the recommendation information, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user. Accordingly, independent Claims 6, 34 and 40 are believed allowable.

Independent Claim 11 defines a receiving apparatus comprising, among other features, input means for inputting by a user, a retrieval condition, selecting means for searching the plurality of programs in accordance with the retrieval condition and selecting by the user, a program from programs described in a search result, file generating means for generating an output file based on the retrieval condition, and transmitting means for transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

Independent Claim 35 is a method claim that substantially corresponds to the Claim 11.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 11 and 35 and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of inputting by a user, a retrieval condition, searching the plurality of programs in accordance with the retrieval condition and selecting by the user, a program from programs described in a search result, generating an output file based on the retrieval condition, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

As stated above, Yoshinobu is seen to disclose receiving a broadcast signal of television programs and index data for the programs and displaying a television program selected by a user on the user's television. Yoshinobu is not seen to disclose or to suggest inputting by a user, a retrieval condition, searching the plurality of programs in accordance with the retrieval condition and selecting by the user, a program from programs described in a search result, generating an output file based on the retrieval

condition, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

In addition, Lawler expressly discloses an automated system with no selection by the user. Therefore, Lawler is not seen to disclose or to suggest inputting by a user, a retrieval condition, searching the plurality of programs in accordance with the retrieval condition and selecting by the user, a program from programs described in a search result, generating an output file based on the retrieval condition, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user. Accordingly, independent Claims 11 and 35 are believed to be allowable.

Independent Claim 12 defines a receiving apparatus comprising receiving means for receiving a television broadcasting signal in which video signals of a plurality of broadcasting programs and program guide information of the plurality of broadcasting programs are multiplexed, extraction means for extracting the program guide information from the television broadcasting signal received by said receiving means, input means for inputting recommendation guide information of a program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, and program table generating means for generating a first program table indicating the plurality of broadcasting programs, on the basis of the program guide information extracted by said extraction means, and for generating a second program table indicating the selected program, in accordance with the recommendation guide information input by said input means.

Independent Claim 26 defines a receiving apparatus comprising receiving means for receiving a television broadcasting signal in which video signals of a plurality of broadcasting programs are multiplexed, output means for outputting the video signal of a broadcasting program received by said receiving means to a display device, retrieving means for retrieving a program from the plurality of broadcasting programs in accordance with a predetermined condition, input means for inputting recommendation guide information of a program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, and program table generating means for generating a program table in accordance with a retrieval result by said retrieving means and the recommendation guide information input by said input means and for outputting data representative of the program table to said display device.

Independent Claim 36 defines a receiving method for a receiving apparatus comprising the steps of receiving a broadcasting signal in which information signals of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, inputting program information of a recommended program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, and generating a program table in accordance with the program information input at said program information input step and outputting data representative of the program table.

Independent Claim 37 defines a receiving method for a receiving apparatus comprising the steps of receiving a broadcasting signal in which information signals of plurality of programs are multiplexed, outputting information of the information signal received at said receiving step, retrieving a program from the plurality of programs in accordance with a predetermined condition, inputting recommendation guide information

of a program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, and generating a program table in accordance with a retrieval result at said retrieving step and the recommendation guide information input at said program information input step and for outputting program table data representative of the program table.

Independent Claim 38 defines a television signal receiving method for a television signal receiving apparatus, comprising the steps of receiving a television broadcasting signal in which digital image signals of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, inputting program information of a recommended program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, generating a program table in accordance with the program information input at said program information inputting step and displaying the program table on a display device, designating a program in the program table, and extracting a digital image signal of the program designated at said designating step from the television broadcasting signal and displaying an image of the extracted program on the display device.

Independent Claim 42 defines a recording medium storing a program of a receiving method for a receiving apparatus, said receiving method comprising the steps of receiving a broadcasting signal in which information signals of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, inputting program information of a recommended program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, and generating a program table in accordance with the program information input at said program information input step and outputting data representative of the program table.



Independent Claim 43 defines a recording medium storing a program of a receiving method for a receiving apparatus, said receiving method comprising the steps of receiving a broadcasting signal in which information signals of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, outputting information of the information signal received at said receiving step, retrieving a program from the plurality of programs in accordance with a predetermined condition, inputting recommendation guide information of a program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, and generating a program table in accordance with a retrieval result at said retrieving step and the recommendation guide information input at said program information input step and for outputting program table data representative of the program table.

Independent Claim 44 defines a recording medium storing a program of a television signal receiving method for a television signal receiving apparatus, said television signal receiving method comprising the steps of receiving a television broadcasting signal in which digital image signals of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, inputting program information of a recommended program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user, generating a program table in accordance with the program information input at said program information inputting step and displaying the program table on a display device, designating a program in the program table, and extracting a digital image signal of the program designated at said designating step from the television broadcasting signal and displaying an image of the extracted program on the display device.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 12, 26, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43 and 44 and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at

least the feature of inputting recommendation guide information of a program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user.

As discussed above, Yoshinobu is seen to disclose receiving a broadcast signal of television programs and index data for the programs and displaying a television program selected by a user on the user's television. Yoshinobu is not seen to disclose or suggest inputting recommendation guide information of a program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user.

In addition, Lawler expressly discloses an automated system with no selection by the user. Therefore, Lawler is not seen to disclose or to suggest inputting recommendation guide information of a program selected by another user from an external apparatus, which is accessible by the another user. Accordingly, independent Claims 12, 26, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43 and 44 are believed to be allowable.

Independent Claim 41 defines a recording medium storing a program of a receiving method for a receiving apparatus, said receiving method comprising the steps of receiving a broadcasting signal in which video signals and program information signals of a plurality of programs are multiplexed, processing the video signal of a program and outputting the processed video signal to a display device, extracting program information from the program information signals received at said receiving step, inputting by a user, recommendation information regarding a selected program, generating an output file using the program information of the selected program together with the recommendation information, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claim 41, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of inputting

by a user, recommendation information regarding a selected program, generating an output file using program information of the selected program together with the recommendation information, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

As stated above, Yoshinobu is seen to disclose receiving a broadcast signal of television programs and index data for the programs and displaying a television program selected by a user on the user's television. Yoshinobu is not seen to disclose or to suggest inputting by a user, recommendation information regarding a selected program, generating an output file using program information of the selected program together with the recommendation information, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user.

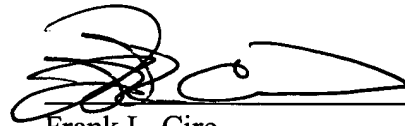
In addition, Lawler expressly discloses an automated system with no selection by the user. Therefore, Lawler is not seen to disclose or to suggest inputting by a user, recommendation information regarding a selected program, generating an output file using program information of the selected program together with the recommendation information, and transmitting the output file as recommendation guide information to an external apparatus, which is accessible by another user. Accordingly, independent Claim 41 is believed to be allowable.

The other claims in the application are dependent from the independent claims discussed above and therefore are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', is written over a horizontal line.

Frank L. Cire  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No.: 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-2200  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA\_MAIN 102595v2